Lovely Strange Dark

SAYONARA WATASHITACHI

BY AYUKO

STORY 3

Raws: kuinni
Translation: Kurenai
Editing: Cpt. Mischief & Kurenai
QC: Ianu

lovelystrangedark.wordpress.com

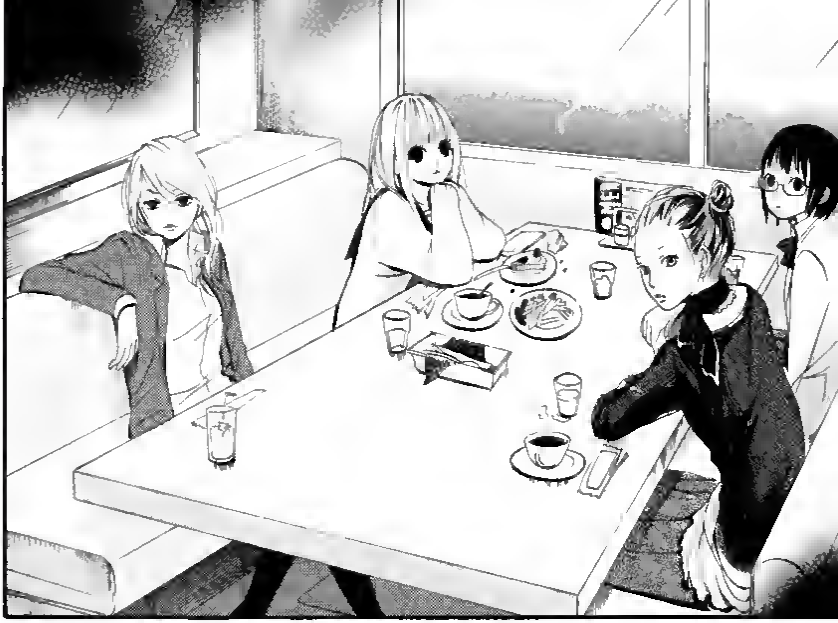
Heartbreak Diner

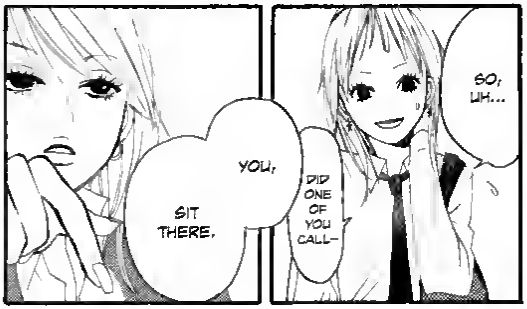
BEEP
RYUU DAR-LING,
COME ON.
WE HAVE A DATE PLANNED, REMEMBER?
CALL ME, OK?
NO EXCUSES!
Ryuuji Murata
00:00'31
beep
:TOOT:
:TOOT:
:TOOT:
click
SORRY, I'M NOT AVAILABLE RIGHT NOW
PLEASE LEAVE YOUR MESSAGE AFTER THE BEEP
...
That's weird.

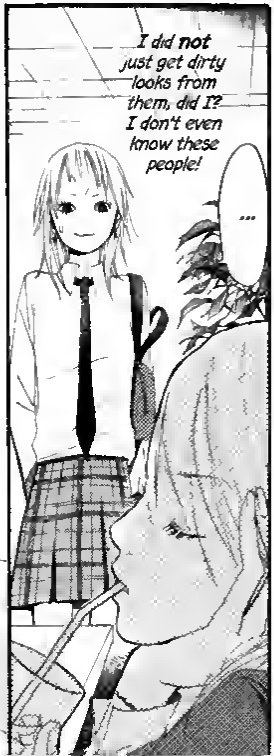
And he takes his charger everywhere
He definitely doesn't have work today.
FLIP
Finally!
HEY!
Ryuuji Murata
Ah!
Ryuu?
COME TO THE DINER IN FRONT OF THE STATION
...
RYUU?
HELLO?
...
...

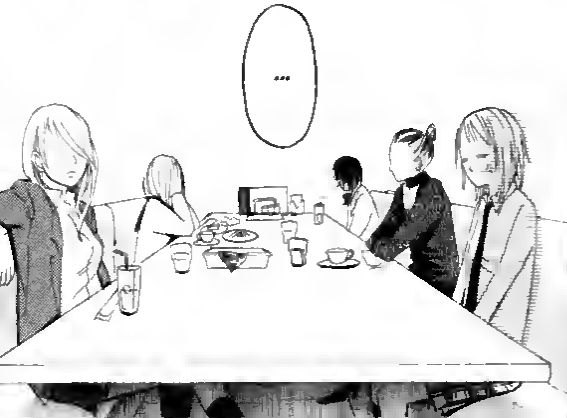
WE NEED TO TALK.
RIGHT AWAY.
click
I SAID, RIGHT AWAY.
WHO IS-
UH,
...
Is that a girl speaking?
That's only a block away.
The diner in front of the station, huh?
She wanted to talk?
Who was that?
Rude much?
This
Ryuuji Murata
00:00:40

Dandy's
Dandy's
...
If it's anything stupid, I'm out of here
リンゴくん
OH.
HERE SHE COMES.
WHISPER
SHE'S HERE?
WHISPER
SEE, OVER THERE.




SO, UH...
DID ONE OF YOU CALL—
YOU, SIT THERE.


I did **not** just get dirty looks from them, did I? I don't even know these people!
...


...

They made me come all the way here just to treat me like this?
They don't even look like they belong in the same clique.
SO IS EVERY-BODY HERE?
Look, if you've got something to say, out with it.
Why did I bother?

I'M PROBABLY THE ONLY MIDDLE SCHOOLER HERE.
I SEE.
ARE ALL OF YOU IN HIGH SCHOOL?
I DON'T HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD, EITHER.
I WANT TO GO HOME ALREADY.
CAN SOMEONE TELL ME...
...WHO MADE THAT PHONE-
I DID.
...
I guessed as much
YOU GUYS KNOW RYUUJI MURATA?

UM,
I-
I DO, TOO.
Know him, I mean
I DO, BUT WHAT ABOUT-
OH!
YOU KNOW HIM?
I cannot believe ...
...what I'm hearing.
OF COURSE YOU KNOW HIM
EVERY ONE OF YOU-
-EVERY ONE OF US HERE IS INVOLVED WITH HIM.

YEP.
IT'S RYUU'S PHONE.
I HAD A DATE WITH HIM YESTERDAY.
CLAK
AFTER GOING THROUGH HIS PHONE, I DECIDED TO CONTACT-
WAIT A MINUTE!
ACK!
HOW DID YOU GET A HOLD OF THAT?
YOU HAD NO RIGHT TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
IT'S TRUE THAT I KNOW HIM, BUT...
...WHAT WE HAVE BETWEEN US, IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK IT IS!

...
HEH.
WHAT'S IT LIKE, THEN?
Shuei Art College Fes
Shuei Art
He...
...came to my college festival.
Visual Design
That's my work

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THAT KIND OF ART?
W-WELL...
TO BE HONEST, IT'S KIND OF BEYOND ME...
BUT...
...I THINK IT'S PRETTY AWESOME.
MAKES YOU WONDER...
...WHAT COULD HAVE INSPIRED IT.
Hoh hoh
I COULDN'T COME UP WITH ANYTHING LIKE IT.
I was happy to hear that.
Contemporary art like this one is a little hard to understand but...
IT WAS HIS TURNING POINT.
HE'S TAKING ART LESSONS NOW.
PFFT, HE'S SIMPLE LIKE THAT.
Which is nice, don't get me wrong

...WE'RE KINDRED SPIRITS.
pfft
OOPS. SORRY.
THAT'S NOT THE VERSION I HEARD.
AND HE MET SOME WEIRD OLDER CHICK WHO JUST WOULDN'T STOP BUGGING HIM
SEE, RYUUJI TOLD ME HE WENT TO THIS COLLEGE ART EXHIBITION-HIS FRIEND STUDIES THERE OR SOMETHING-
WE CONNECT BECAUSE WE APPRECIATE ART, NOT BECAUSE WE'RE A BOY AND A GIRL.
THAT'S WHY...
...WE BRING OUT THE BEST IN EACH OTHER.
YES...
SHE MADE ONE OF THE ARTSY THINGS ON DISPLAY THAT MADE ABSOLUTELY NO SENSE TO HIM; BUT SHE WAS TOTALLY CONFIDENT AND PASSIONATE ABOUT IT.
I GUESS HE HUMORED HER BECAUSE WHY NOT?
SHE EVEN GAVE HIM HER BUSINESS CARD. HAND-MADE.
"CAN'T BELIEVE PEOPLE LIKE THAT STILL EXIST."
STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH.

HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!
!
WHY DO YOU... HAVE MY CARD?
I SUPPOSE...
...HE MEANT YOU?
Hanayo Yamada
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I WENT TO THAT EXHIBITION WITH HIM— OUR FIRST DATE, Y'KNOW?
HE SAID HE DIDN'T HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND!
HE SAID "YOU'RE CUTE, WANNA BE FRIENDS? ☆"
RYUUJI SAW MY PROFILE ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND SENT ME A DM.
YOU'RE HIS WHAT, EXACTLY?
He usually makes me wait an entire day for a single text...
HIS GIRLFRIEND, DUH! ☆
BUT I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS SEEING SO MANY GIRLS ON THE SIDE!
SO HE'S BEEN LYING THIS WHOLE TIME?!
roar

FLIP
IF YOU SEE HIS PHONE, YOU'LL KNOW.
I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT UNTIL YESTERDAY MYSELF.
UM...
...IS THAT...?
Group
F
Glasses
I'm an Artist, Yo
No Pressure
Zipper
THEY'RE THE NICK-NAMES...
...RYUUJI GAVE US.
"NO PRES-SURE" ...IS M-ME?
Crime Pressure Free Education Policy?
I...I'M "GLASSES," THEN?
WHO ELSE?

WAIT, WHO'S F?
NO WAY.
"I'M AN ARTIST, YO"?
RYUUJI CALLS ME...
Danny's
Danny's
...
ME.
...I'M AN F-CUP.
BECAUSE ...
DO YOU GUYS GET IT NOW?
HE'S A CHEATING PIECE OF SHIT.

AN ASS-HOLE!
STAB
...
WAIT. PLEASE HEAR ME OUT.
I DON'T THINK RYUUJI IS AS BAD...
...AS ALL THAT.

Desserts
Drinks
RYUUJI WORKS AT MY GO-TO CONVENIENCE STORE.
BUT, WELL...
OH, I'M NOT SEEING HIM OR ANYTHING.
UM...
I KNEW HE HAD...
...A GIRL-FRIEND.
BEEP
PUSH
WELCOME.
Fluffy Puff
Y-yes
COME AGAIN.
YOU'RE ALWAYS BUYING THIS, HUH?
Fluffy Puff
touch
clink
slu sh

I only...
...wanted him to know how I felt.
AND THEN... HE TOLD ME THIS.
DASH
"I HOPE...
"...WE CAN GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER."

HE...HE ACTUALLY WANTED TO GET TO KNOW ME BETTER!
SEE, HE'S NOT AS BAD AS YOU GUYS SEEM TO THINK HE IS.
IS THIS THE REASON?
SO...HOW COME HE HAS YOUR NUMBER LISTED?
TH-THAT'S BE-CAUSE-

HERE, I'LL READ IT FOR YOU.
"DO YOU MIND THAT I HAVE A CRUSH ON YOU? I HOPE NOT. MY NUMBER IS 090—"
H—
HOW DID YOU GET A HOLD OF THAT?
slam
STOP!
grab
CATCH

WHY DID YOU WRITE YOUR NUMBER HERE?
YOU DID KNOW HE HAD A GIRLFRIEND, RIGHT?
"I ONLY WANTED HIM TO KNOW HOW I FELT," MY ASS.

IT'S SO OBVIOUS YOU HAD AN ULTERIOR MOTIVE. SO DON'T GIVE ME THE GOODY-GOODY ACT.
HE PLAYED YOU.
ENOUGH OF THIS!

WHY...
...ARE YOU DOING THIS?
TO MAKE YOU FACE THE TRUTH.
YOU POOR THINGS.
FALLING...
...FOR HIS LIES.
YEAH, WELL.
YOU'RE THE SAME~
HE DUMPED ME, OK?!

SAVE YOUR BREATH.
I KNOW I'M NO DIFFERENT.
EVEN THOUGH I KNEW HE WAS SEEING SOMEBODY ELSE,
I COULDN'T HELP BUT LIKE HIM ANYWAY.

SO...
...I DIDN'T MIND BEING NUMBER TWO OR EVEN NUMBER THREE.
THAT'S WHAT I TOLD HIM.
BUT...
...HE STILL DUMPED YOU?
MAYBE ...
...HE'S FOUND THE GIRL HE REALLY CARES ABOUT?
AH HA.
AS IN HIS TRUE LOVE?
...
...

JEEZ!
ARE WE REALLY GOING TO MOPE OVER THAT GUY?
HOW CAN YOU GUYS STAND IT?
HE FREAKING FIVE-TIMED US! FIVE!
HE'S NOT WORTH MY TEARS!
WHO NEEDS RYUUJI ANYWAY?
I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR SOMEONE WHO LOVES ME AND ONLY ME!
We girls are strong.
SAME HERE.
We won't let anything...
I'M THROUGH ...
...WITH HIM AND GUYS LIKE HIM.
...stand in the way of our happiness.
ME, TOO!
THAT MAN-SLUT IS THE WORST!
Go to hell!

You're right!
Way to go!
So...
heh heh heh
THIS...
...HAS BEEN ENLIGHTENING.
...don't cry.
Nah it's OK
I'm sorry I said all those horrible things
Don't worry about it
Hey big boobs

AH!
MY PHONE!
YOU FOUND IT!
YESSSSS!
DID YOU COME ALL THIS WAY TO RETURN IT TO ME?
YOU'RE A LIFE SAVER! THANKS.
I don't know what I'd do without it!
NEVER MIND THAT.
SO...
?
DID YOU REALLY...
OF COURSE I DID!
I TOLD HER YESTERDAY STRAIGHT OUT.
SPARKLE
...BREAK IT OFF WITH BOOBS LIKE I TOLD YOU TO?
GOOD. ♪
Actually, I knew about the other four from the start

I'm the only one who can deal with a hopeless flirt like him.
But not one of them has what it takes to be Ryuuji's girl.
We girls are strong.
...stand in the way of our happiness.
We won't let anything...

《 Fin 》

Sayonara tachi